

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 12068 270631Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05 IO-13 VO-05 ISO-00
/029 W

-----066228 270635Z /73

P R 270411Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO AMEMBASSY CANBEERA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3654
INS WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 12068

FOLLOWING TEL SENT BANGKOK FROM SONGKHLA 26 APR REPEATED FYI:

QTE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SONGKHLA 0182

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, VM, TH
SUBJECT: SITUATION IN SONGKHLA REFUGEE CAMP
REF: BARNES TELECON APRIL 25

1. AS I REPORTED VERBALLY TO MR. BARNES ON APRIL 21, PROVINCE
OFFICIALS SAY THEY HAVE NOT ENCOURAGED NOR OFFERED BOATS TO VIETNAMESE

REFUGEES IN CAMP WHO WISHED TO SAIL TO AUE RALIA. THE VICE GOVERNOR
TOLD ME, HOWEVER, THAT UNDER PRESENT RTG POLICY, HE CANNOT PREVENT
REFUGEES WHO WANT TO LEAVE FROM DOING SO.

2. THE CAMP COMMANDANT TOLD ME ONE FAMILY HAD "BOUGHT" A BOAT TO
ATTEMPT TO SAIL TO AUSTRALIA. HE SAID THAT HE TRIED TO DISCOURAGE
THEM AND HAD INFORMED UNHCR REP ABOUT IT. UNHCR REP CONFIRMED THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 12068 270631Z

STORY AND SAID HE HAD TALKED TO PERSONS INVOLVED. HE TOLD THEM
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT UNHAPPY ABOUT SO MANY BOATS ARRIVING IN
AUSTRALIA AND THAT THE REFUGEES MAY NOT BE WELCOME. WHEN INFORMED
OF THIS, REFUGEES SAID THEY WOULD RECONSIDER.

3. MORALE OF REFUGEES IN CAMP POOR. OVERCROWDING CAUSED BY MORE
THAN 1,000 REFUGEES AND POOR LEADERSHIP OF CAMP COMMANDANT ARE TWO

REASONS FOR POOR MORALE. UNHCR REP BELIEVES CAMP COMMANDANT RUNNING PROTECTION RACKET, THUS CAUSING DISSENSION WITHIN THE CAMP. THE DEPARTURE OF MR. MAI OR HIS DISMISSAL FROM HIS PRESENT JOB AND HIS REPLACEMENT BY A MORE CAPABLE LEADER WOULD CERTAINLY HELP MORALE.

4. FOUR YOUNG GIRLS, THREE OF THEM UNDER 15 YEARS OLD, ALLEGEDLY RAPED BY THAI POLICEMEN WHEN REFUGEE BOAT VNKG 1098 LANDED IN RANOT, ABOUT 90 KILOMETERS FROM SONGKHLA. THE DOCTOR CONFIRMED THAT THEY HAD BEEN RAPED WITHIN PAST FEW DAYS. THE UNHCR REP HAS ASKED THE GOVERNOR TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION.

5. THE ICEM MEDICAL TEAM OF TWO THAI NURSES FINALLY ARRIVED IN SONGKHLA OVER THE WEEKEND. THEY HAVE BEGUN TO CONDUCT THE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS OF THE REFUGEES APPROVED TO TRAVEL TO THE U.S. THE UNHCR REP IS HOPEFUL THAT THESE REFUGEES MAY BE READY FOR TRAVEL TO BANGKOK SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. THE IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE OF ABOUT 150 REFUGEES FOR THE U.S. WOULD CERTAINLY AID MORALE IN THE CAMP.

6. AS REPORTED TO MR. BARNES ON APRIL 21, DELIVERY OF RICE HAS AGAIN BECOME SPOTTY WITHIN THE LAST WEEK. ON APRIL 19 AND 24, THE REFUGEES DID NOT RECEIVE ANY RICE. ON OTHER DAYS THEY HAVE RECEIVED ONE OR TWO BAGS LESS THAN THE AUTHORIZED AMOUNT. WHEN I MENTIONED THIS TO THE VICE GOVERNOR ON APRIL 20, HE AGAIN BLAMED THE SLOWNESS OF RECEIPT

OF MONEY FROM BANGKOK AS THE REASON FOR THE SPOTTY DELIVERY BY THE CONTRACTORS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANGKO 12068 270631Z

HAYASHIDA UNQTE
WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, REFUGEE CAMPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BANGKO12068
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780179-0993
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780412/aaaaajiv.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4b4bbda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2835052
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION IN SONGKHLA REFUGEE CAMP
TAGS: SREF, VM, TH
To: CANBERRA GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4b4bbda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014